

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MS

L.D. 917

DATE: 5-23-97

(Filing No. H-685)

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 664, L.D. 917, Bill, "An Act to Combine the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Establish a Coordinated Information Referral System and a Single Intake System for the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Public Safety'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Information referral and single intake systems. Resolved: That by April 1, 1998, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Public Safety shall establish a coordinated information referral system and a single intake system for clients. By January 1, 1998, the named departments shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services regarding their progress in establishing the systems. The report must contain any legislation required to establish the systems.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, the Department of Education, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Public Safety will require significant additional General Fund appropriations to develop a single intake system. The cost of implementing this system, by department, by fund and by fiscal year, can not be determined at this time and will depend on the specific programmatic changes intended.

The additional costs associated with continuing the Department of Human Services' current efforts to develop a referral system can be absorbed by the department utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. It requires the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Public Safety to establish a coordinated information referral system and a single intake system for clients. By January 1, 1998, the named departments are required to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services regarding their progress in establishing the systems. The report must contain any legislation required to establish the systems.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.